

NAS NORTH ISLAND - NAVY REGION SOUTHWEST NAVY ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

CONSERVATION

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

LEAD ACTIVITY

Naval Air Station (NAS) North Island

STATUS

Completed

MISSION

Expand capabilities of Cultural Resources Management Program

DESCRIPTION

Cooperative agreements (CA) are partnerships between the Navy and academic or research institutions that reduce the costs typically incurred by cultural and historical surveys. CAs provide a mutually beneficial means of acquiring, analyzing, and interpreting historic or archaeological data, which can then be used to determine the significance of the cultural resources present.

NAS North Island's Cultural Resources Management Program (CRMP) implemented two types of cooperative agreements: (1) CAs and (2) cooperative research agreements (CRA). CAs are funded by the Navy and produce results that are directly related to achieving project-specific compliance with Sections 106 and 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Authorization for CAs is arranged through the Naval Facilities Engineering Command. Hourly labor rates for work performed under CAs are comparable to those of work performed by contractors, but the overhead costs of CAs are much lower. Overhead cost for labor under CAs ranges from 0 to 25 percent, which represents a significant savings from the 100 percent overhead cost that is typical for contractors.

CRAs are unfunded partnerships that benefit the Navy, but which have long-term relationships to the Navy compliance program. CRAs are arranged directly by the CRMP and are approved by the Commanding Officer of NAS North Island. Under CRAs, there are no labor or overhead costs for the work performed, although logistical support is provided to the collaborating research institution in exchange for the volunteer labor. Providing logistical support such as housing, food, and gas for 20 to 25 students costs the NAS North Island CRMP about \$5,000 per summer.

More than 6,000 hours of field labor have been performed in support of archaeological management projects over the last 10 years through CAs and CRAs. Since 1983, 32,000 hours of labor have been contributed during nine cooperative field schools

conducted at San Clemente Island. The hours provided by the researchers to these projects cost the Navy \$45,000, but are equivalent to more than \$1,250,000 of contracted labor.

Partnerships such as the ones developed at NAS North Island result in benefits of proactive management, reduced costs, improved stewardship of cultural resources, and increased flexibility. An example of a successful CA:

In March 1996, an archaeological resource survey was required for a pending plan to upgrade roads on San Clemente Island. The Navy's planning department requested that the CRMP survey more than 50 kilometers of roads on San Clemente Island. Because the areas had previously been surveyed under various CAs and CRAs, the project could proceed without an additional 3- to 5-month study that would have been required to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- **Fact Sheet:** [Cooperative Agreements \(NELPFS-3.PDF, 654 KB\)](#)
- Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Defense Department Compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act: Section 202(a)(6) Evaluation Report. March 1994.

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